

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A bait container comprising:  
a housing defining an access opening and a central axis;  
an at least partially perforated carriage located within the housing;  
a post extending from the carriage substantially along the central axis and movable along the central axis; and  
a door substantially located in a vertical plane parallel to the central axis and arranged to move in the vertical plane between an open position to expose the access opening and a closed position to at least partially cover the access opening in response to movement of the post along the central axis.
2. The bait container of claim 1, wherein:  
the post defines an elongated slot located substantially along the central axis; and  
the door comprises a rigid link arranged to interact with the elongated slot to cause the door to move in the vertical plane.
3. The bait container of claim 1, further comprising a handle connected to the post and arranged to move the post along the central axis.
4. The bait container of claim 3, further comprising a locking arrangement for selectively securing the post, thereby maintaining the door in the closed position.
5. The bait container of claim 4, wherein the locking arrangement comprises a rotatable latch arrangement.
6. The bait container of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of tracks arranged to guide the door to move in the vertical plane.

7. The bait container of claim 6, wherein the tracks are formed integrally with the housing.

8. The bait container of claim 1, wherein the housing defines a lip proximate the access opening to hinder egress of live bait.

9. The bait container of claim 1, wherein the housing is cylindrical in shape.

10. The bait container of claim 1, wherein the housing is polyhedral in shape.